

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MOVEMENT TOWARD PERMANENT PEACE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton's recent visit to the north and south of Ireland, has enhanced the momentum toward finding lasting peace and justice on the whole island. The President is to be commended for his efforts in this important cause.

The peace process that has seen a ceasefire in the north of Ireland honored on all sides for more than 15 months, has yet to produce the critical all-party inclusive talks essential to finding through political dialogue, a lasting reconciliation and a permanent peace. The people of all Ireland clearly desire those goals, as was demonstrated by the joyous, supportive, and warm reception the President's peace visit received in both parts of the island.

The Congress was well represented on this important, historical trip of President Clinton to help advance the peace process in Ireland, at a point in time when it was stalled, the momentum lost, and a return to violence a real possibility.

A strong bipartisan delegation of both House and Senate members led by my good friend JAMES WALSH (R-NY), the chairman of the Friends of Ireland accompanied the President. The congressional delegation met with all the parties in the north and south, and engaged in an important and further dialogue to help sustain the progress toward peace, which President Clinton's visit had motivated.

The bipartisan congressional delegation issued a statement, which in part unanimously stated, that the delegation urges that " * * * a fixed and concrete date be promptly set for all party inclusive talks following the completion of the International Body's findings under the leadership of former United States Senator George Mitchell of Maine."

The arms decommissioning issue that this International Body will address by mid-January 1996 has sadly too often been a smoke screen, and unfortunately used as a totally unwarranted precondition by many to stall and prevent critical all-party inclusive talks and dialogue. What the north of Ireland needs in order to truly get the arms held by both sides out of the process, is really a decommissioning of the mind set of the many who are resistant to change on both sides. That must and can only take place across the bargaining table in this long, tragic, and deeply divisive "troubles" that must come to a permanent end.

Once the arms issue report is completed by the International Body in mid-January next year, it is hoped that no more excuses, delaying tactics, nor any one side's veto will be tolerated by the interested governments. We must soon thereafter have a fixed concrete and nonnegotiable date set for all party talks at the peace table. The target date for these

talks in late February, can not, and must not, become a moving target.

The delegation is commended for its firm statement and understanding of what needs to be done. Talks must soon begin in earnest, and the future of all Ireland settled at the bargaining table by the warm and generous people of Ireland, not by any bombs or guns.

The future generations of Irish youth and Ireland's many friends here and all around the world will be following very closely the progress toward lasting peace which President Clinton's visit has stimulated once again. We in the Congress will do all in our power to see that this momentum does not slip away.

Mr. Speaker, I request that the full text of the bi-partisan delegation's statement be included at this point in the RECORD.

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION APPLAUDS MOVEMENT TOWARD PERMANENT PEACE AND RECONCILIATION; URGES CONTINUED PROGRESS

(Dublin, Ireland, December 1, 1995)

Chairman James Walsh (R-NY)—Head of the Bi-Partisan Delegation accompanying President Clinton's visit to Ireland issued the following statement on behalf of the delegation.

"The enormous celebration of Peace we have all witnessed among people of both the north and south of Ireland is a reflection of the enormous desire to make the current peace permanent, and find lasting justice on the whole island of Ireland. The young people of Ireland's future must be secured through the removal of violence as a means for change.

"After seeing an obvious display of support for peace by the people of Ireland, and after meeting with all political parties, north and south, the delegation is firmly convinced that a lasting political solution can, and must, be found through political dialogue. Specifically, we support the recent twin track agreement.

Mr. Walsh went on to say, "I applaud President Clinton's continued leadership in helping move the peace process forward and using the influence and moral will of America to help advance the peace process."

Mr. Walsh concluded by saying, "The delegation was unanimous in urging that a fixed and concrete date be promptly set for all-party inclusive talks following the completion of the International Body's findings under the leadership of former United States Senator George Mitchell of Maine."

A TRIBUTE TO EARL WESLEY BASCOM

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am proud, yet saddened, to bring to your attention today the recent passing of Earl Wesley Bascom of Victorville, CA. Earl was a cowboy hero and a true inspiration to many of us, particularly in the West. I'd like to take a moment to share with you a glimpse of Earl's remarkable life and the legacy he has left for future generations.

Earl was born in a sod-roofed log cabin on a ranch near Vernal, UT, on June 19, 1906. His grandfather, Joel Bascom, was one of the very first frontier lawmen, and his father, deputy sheriff John Bascom, chased the outlaw Butch Cassidy in the late 1880's. Earl showed an early interest in art, drawing scenes of his young cowboy life on pieces of scrap paper. This interest blossomed when his family left Utah by covered wagon to start a new ranch life in Alberta, Canada in 1914. There he worked as a cowhand for a dollar a day and furthered his dream under the direction of renowned western artist Charlie Russell.

In 1933, at the age of 27, and having never graduated from high school, Earl was accepted to study art at Brigham Young University. He was the first student to pay his way through college exclusively as a rodeo cowboy, giving him the title of "Rodeo's First Collegiate Cowboy." As an early pioneer of rodeo, he invented innovative rodeo equipment still used today. He graduated as one of the great rodeo legends, with his art degree, in 1940.

Earl retired from rodeo, married Nadine Diffey, and moved to Los Angeles in 1940 to pursue his art career. As that developed, he worked in construction, ranching, taught, and even did some film work with Roy Rogers. In 1968, Earl began sculpting, and 5 years later, he and his youngest son, John, set up their own bronze casting foundry to produce magnificent works of western art.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Earl's family and many friends in recognizing Earl Bascom's extraordinary work and remarkable life. Earl lived one of the most interesting lives ever known in modern cowboy history. "I've tried to portray the West as I knew it—rough and rugged and tough as an old boot but with a good heart and honest as the day is long," he said. It is only fitting that the House recognize Earl Bascom today.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM F. ARMSTRONG

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mr. William F. Armstrong and 1995 marks Mr. Armstrong's 50th anniversary of being founder and president of Armstrong Ambulance Services.

Mr. Armstrong is certainly dedicated. He dutifully served his tour of duty in the U.S. Marine Corps. Upon his return, he established his very own ambulatory service. This personal service currently thrives as the Armstrong Ambulance Service.

Mr. Armstrong's perseverance and hard work to benefit and safeguard the well-being of others is exemplary. He lived on call for others 24 hours a day, for over five decades.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Due to his unwavering leadership, Armstrong Ambulance Service has grown to accommodate the medical transportation for over 40,000 people a year in the Greater Boston area.

I applaud the accomplishments of Mr. Armstrong. His special evening of recognition on December 16, 1995, will be a perfect opportunity to reflect upon such a joyous occasion with family and friends. I would like to extend my deepest congratulations to Mr. William F. Armstrong. His 50th anniversary of serving others is truly commendable and is a fine example of the notion of community.

IN MEMORY OF H.G. "SKINNY"
TAYLOR

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the passing of H.G. "Skinny" Taylor, an Illinois political legend. For years an actively involved Republican, friends on both sides of the aisle throughout the 19th Congressional District and the State of Illinois will miss his wit, style, and grace. It is with great sadness that I offer my condolences to his family.

A graduate of Robinson, IL, High School and Millikin University, Skinny owned and operated the Decatur Warehouse Co. A dedicated member of his community, Skinny took leadership roles in the Kiwanis Club, the Decatur Association of Commerce, the Westminster Presbyterian Church, and the Millikin Alumni Association. But his greatest impression was left in politics, presiding as the chairman of the Macon County Republican Party for 39 years, while also serving as a Republican precinct committeeman for 54 years. In both posts he was instrumental in acquainting the Decatur area with State and national politicians. Skinny introduced many statewide candidates to the nuances of campaigning in downstate Illinois, urging them to get in touch with the problems that affected rural communities.

Mr. Speaker, "Skinny" Taylor handled these many roles with a gentleness that impressed all that met him. He touched many lives, and brought to politics the common sense belief that good government was good politics. In the sometimes fractious environment in Washington, we can all learn from his example. Let us duly note a life well lived.

A 104TH BIRTHDAY SALUTE TO
JAMES EDWARD GIBSON OF
PHILADELPHIA

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute James Edward Gibson on the occasion of his 104th birthday and for his dedicated service to the New Central Baptist Church.

On December 25, 1995, the New Central Baptist Church will proudly join with James

Edward Gibson on the occasion of his 104th birthday and for his tireless dedication as trustee emeritus of the New Central Baptist Church of Philadelphia. Brother Gibson has lived a life of service to God and the church. He has served the New Central Baptist Church since 1915, in many capacities from usher board member to trustee emeritus. Not only is he a valued and cherished member of the trustees, he is so much more, he is a source of inspiration and comfort to the entire congregation of the New Central Baptist Church. Brother Gibson has served the New Central Baptist Church with honor, dignity, and commitment, offering new and innovative ideas to the community.

I join with the congregation of the New Central Baptist Church, friends, family, and the Philadelphia community today in celebrating the 104th birthday of James Edward Gibson. I wish Brother Gibson and the New Central Baptist Church the very best as together they continue their service to the Philadelphia community.

PROCLAMATION HONORING DONNA
MAHFOUZ

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Donna Mahfouz has faithfully served the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield family for twenty-three years; and

Whereas, Donna Mahfouz has held the post of legislative secretary for the Government Relations Office, since its inception seventeen years ago; and,

Whereas, her strong work ethic, superlative organizational skills, and warm sense of humor have greatly contributed to the success of Blue Cross and Blue Shield; and

Whereas, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield owes Donna Mahfouz a great deal of gratitude for her selfless devotion and dedicated service; and,

Whereas, I join the employees of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, with distinct pleasure, in honoring Donna Mahfouz upon her retirement as legislative secretary for the Government Relations Office.

PROPOSING CUTBACKS IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY REGARDING
THE OZONE LAYER

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, according to TOM DELAY, House majority whip, "What has happened over the last 10 to 20 years is the environmental extremists have had their way with regulators and with Congress and they've gone way beyond reasonableness and common sense"—October 8 Houston Chronicle.

In support of this argument, Mr. DELAY has introduced a bill to lift the ban on the chemicals covered by the ozone-layer ban and other substances. In the October 27 Washington Post, DELAY, a former exterminator, was quoted as saying "the science underlying the

CFC ban is debatable" and the agreement to terminate the use of CFC's "is the result of a media scare."

A couple of weeks later, the Royal Swedish Academy of Science announced this year's Nobel Prize in chemistry was awarded for work that led to the international ban on chemicals believed to be depleting the Earth's protective ozone layer. These scientists discovered that when chlorofluorocarbons [CFC's], standard coolants in refrigerators and air-conditioners, leak, they rise heavenward and destroy ozone molecules that shield the Earth from the Sun.

As you know, in 1985, scientists confirmed the existence of a hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica. This ecological crisis spurred more than 120 countries to negotiate and approve the Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer, which President Reagan signed in 1987. In 1989, Congress enacted a tax on ozone-depleting chemicals—CFC's or chlorofluorocarbons—to provide an economic incentive to reduce production and use of these destructive substances. This tax has very successfully accelerated the phase-out of harmful chemicals while at the same time it has spurred development of ozone-safe alternatives.

However, TOM DELAY, the House majority whip, remains unconvinced. In the November 4 Houston Chronicle, DELAY said the Nobel Prize has not changed his opinion that the ban on the chemicals to protect the ozone layer was the result of media scare. In a separate interview, one of the three Nobel winners for ozone-depletion research, Mario Molina of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said such charges evidently result from DELAY's lack of knowledge * * * and that all I can say is it's ignorance, real ignorance. DELAY was also quoted as saying that Sweden—where the Nobel program is based—is an extremist country, and the award to Molina and the two other scientists was nothing more than the Nobel appeasement prize linked to a Swedish agenda.

DELAY said the Nobel Prize notwithstanding, he and a number of scientists are not persuaded by the Chicken Little theory that ozone depletion is being caused by CFC's or other manmade materials, or that there would be substantial negative effects even if that happened.

DELAY said his University of Houston biology degree and his many years of dealing with chemicals as owner of a pest-control company enable him to interpret scientific findings, including emerging research that calls the CFC ban into question.

To support a ban on chemicals to protect the ozone layer, he said he would want to see "a direct correlation" between CFC's and ozone depletion, and also "make sure the so-called UV [ultraviolet] radiation that's supposed to make people drop like flies is actually making people drop like flies."

Common sense dictates that waiting for this degree of evidence is waiting too long. A person doesn't need to wait for a brick to drop on his head before he believes it would hurt. The proof that Mr. DELAY requires is exactly the type of catastrophe that current legislation regarding ozone-depleting chemicals was enacted to prevent.

Normally, I would not take this type of know-nothingness seriously. However, with the new Republicans and their anti-environment. Contract With America it appears they are not

going to let real ignorance stand in the way of attacking environmental policy, policy which was supported by Republican Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush. Therefore, it is very important that we continue to rally support from the scientific community, environmental groups, and our constituents in opposition to this type of real ignorance so that we may preserve our Nation's and the world's most precious commodity, the environment.

JAMES COLGATE CLEVELAND,
FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James C. Cleveland, a long-time and invaluable member of the Public Works and Transportation Committee. Jim passed away on December 3, in his beloved State of New Hampshire.

Jim came to the House of Representatives in 1963 after more than a decade in the New Hampshire State Senate. His tenure in the Granite State legislature was marked by an intense and detailed interest in infrastructure and economic development issues. Indeed, he was the chief force behind creation of the New Hampshire Industrial Development Authority.

When Jim came to Congress in 1963, he immediately sought and gained a seat on the Public Works Committee, a position he would hold for the next 18 years. He was a recognized legislative expert in the fields of transportation, water resources, and economic development. His determined belief in the value of public works projects—projects which then and now add value to our Nation and to our everyday lives—helped drive the committee through the 1960's and 1970's.

In addition to his leadership in the House, he was also an inspiration to those of us new arrivals on the committee. I was one of those arrivals—in 1973—and I can say that Jim was a superb mentor and a good friend. His belief in infrastructure and his leadership style was not forgotten when I had the distinct honor to pick up the gavel as committee chairman in the 104th Congress.

There is another and equally compelling aspect to Jim's passing—we have lost yet another member of the "Command Generation." These were the men and women who were born during the Nation's resurgence in the 1920's, weathered with determination the Great Depression, served in World War II, and then helped create the international leviathan for prosperity and justice that was post-war America.

Jim Cleveland was a soldier, a statesman, and a committed private citizen who selflessly served his country with extraordinary distinction. The entire Nation is diminished by his passing.

A TRIBUTE TO HENRY AND BOBBIE SHAFFNER; TWO EXCEPTIONAL COMPOSERS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking and congratulating Henry and Bobbie Shaffner who composed an evocative and hauntingly beautiful musical score dedicated to Swedish humanitarian and Holocaust hero, Raoul Wallenberg. Their composition of the song, "Wallenberg," together with the lyrics of Ms. Lillian Lewis, captivated an audience of over 650 people at the dedication of the bust of Wallenberg in the Great Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol on November 2, 1995.

The song, "Wallenberg," is a tribute to Raoul Wallenberg the Swedish diplomat credited with savings 100,000 Jewish lives in Budapest in 1944. Using false passports, diplomat safe houses, and extraordinary bravery, Wallenberg repeatedly deceived and evaded the Nazis in his heroic mission to prevent the deportation of Hungary's Jews in the death camps. Wallenberg was arrested by Soviet authorities after the war and disappeared into the Gulag. His ultimate fate remains a mystery.

The Shaffners' interest and concern about Wallenberg's fate grew after they read about him in a 1980 New York Times article. They joined the Wallenberg Committee of the United States decided to join those seeking to find him and honor his miraculous deeds.

In 1986, the committee commissioned the Shaffners to compose an inspiring piece that would embody Wallenberg's heroic spirit. In 1992, the song was performed with the lyrics of Lillian Lewis at the committee's annual meeting in New York.

Today's the Shaffners' inspirational music is part of a program titled: "Raoul Wallenberg: A Study in Heroes" which has been implemented in over 50 schools in New York, Massachusetts, and North Carolina, in kindergarten through the eighth grade. Plan call for the program to soon spread across the country.

At the dedication ceremony of the Wallenberg bust, the song was performed by the U.S. Army Band, Sergeant First Class Beverly Benda, soprano, and Staff Sergeant Mary Beth Mailand, harp.

A BETTER COUNTRY—
THANKSGIVING SERMON

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to insert into the extension of remarks of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a sermon that my constituent, Dr. Randall Lee Saxon, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Peoria, IL, made to his congregation on November 19, 1995, in preparation for Thanksgiving.

Mr. Speaker, I read the sermon and was so moved by Dr. Saxon's words and insightful thought that I wanted to insert it in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for the benefit of all my

colleagues. At a time when Congress, and the country, is wrestling with devolution of a Federal Government and personal responsibility, Dr. Saxon's words leapt from the pages as I read them.

A BETTER COUNTRY—A THANKSGIVING
SERMON

(By Rev. Dr. Randall Lee Saxon)

HEBREWS 11: 8, 12-16

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.

Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore".

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

A BETTER COUNTRY

Christians are always in search of a better country. Those who take their faith seriously endeavor to move beyond a feel-good religion to a follow-Jesus faith. Such a faith demands that we continue on our journey of discovery, to build upon the good that was present before us, to bring down the walls that divide us, to bridge chasms—real or imagined—that separate us. Christians are always in search of a better country.

As with the people of the early Christian Church and as with the people who followed the patriarchs of early Judaism, the way of the Christian is the way of the Pilgrim.

Those who have the good fortune to visit the Old Town of Rotterdam, in The Netherlands, may visit still the Pilgrim Fathers' Church—as it is yet called—in which the Scrooby Pilgrims and the Leyden Pilgrims held their last service prior to entering on their incredible journey to discover a better country. Those staunch and visionary forebears of ours worshipped together, then made their way down to the water where they boarded the *Speedwell* to begin their westward journey. Written bold upon a plaque secured to a warehouse on that Rotterdam waterfront is a commemoration to the departure of the Pilgrims.

From The Netherlands, the little ship bearing the Pilgrim band sailed to Plymouth, England. In the English port, after a period of time, the pilgrims boarded a larger ship, the *Mayflower*, and set sail for the brave new world awaiting them across the dark and brooding Atlantic waters. As in Rotterdam, so in Plymouth one may today read of this bold departure of the Pilgrims, commemorating in words writ upon the grand Mayflower Monument the extraordinary event of the journey to discover a better country and thus a better life.

We can imagine that these pious people reflected on the words of Hebrews 11 in the Holy Scripture: People who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But, as it is, they desired a better country . . .

We know that many factors figured in the Pilgrims' decision to leave home and cross the great sea in search of a new land, a better country. As children in public and private schools across America, we are given

opportunity to re-examine the religious and political persecutions and deep yearning of the human spirit which emboldened the Pilgrims to set sail for America. They sought an opportunity to worship as they thought fitting, to engage themselves in self-determination and the utilization of individual gifts for the common purpose of building community. They yearned for a government which would be best described by an American president 243 years after they sailed from Plymouth, a government in which the common people were involved; a government of the people, for the people, and by the people.

Yet, strange-seeming upon first consideration, these same Pilgrims who were willing to leave hearth and homeland for a wild and distant country viewed themselves as strangers and foreigners on the earth. As people of God, they sought with great diligence to live as people of faith in an often faithless world. These Pilgrims held values which transcended the simple "be a good person, be nice to your neighbor" values in human relationships. These values demanded much more of the individual and of society than simply "being nice"; these values demanded one's life commitment to the upbuilding of the kingdom of God. It is no wonder historians who trace the Euro-American pilgrimage from its inception to the present day call the experiment of the Pilgrims by the name "Zion in the Wilderness". There was purpose and commitment in what the Pilgrims set out to accomplish. Their journey was to a better country!

The Church today is called to remember it is still on that same journey that set sail the Pilgrims so long ago.

The Church exists today as resident aliens, an adventurous colony in a society of unbelief. As a society of unbelief, Western culture is devoid of a sense of journey, of adventure, because it lacks belief in much more than the cultivation of an ever-shrinking horizon of self-preservation and self-expression.

The ancient Hebrew patriarchs, the disciples of Jesus of Nazareth, the Pilgrims of the seventeenth century, the visionaries who held "these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness", the founders of this visionary congregation—First Presbyterian Church of Peoria, IL—160 years ago, all were traveling the road to a better country. They had, as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King has said, "a dream."

To tell the truth, that dream, those visions, have taken on the fearful characteristics of a nightmare. The nation—the better country—the Pilgrim people sought to discover and build upon has drifted loose from its moral moorings into a sea of self-centeredness, a Devil's Triangle of you-do-your-thing-and-I'll-do-mine-and-that's-all-that-matters-anyway boorishness that shakes the very foundation of our society.

The home of the brave and land of the free in the 1990s—fifteen generations after the Pilgrims landed on the Massachusetts shore—has become the home of the fearful and the land of the imprisoned. America today has more citizens in prison, per capita, than any other nation in the free world. The experience of being "free" is what many do not experience!

We have winked at the discord in our nation. We have turned away from taking personal responsibility to become change agents involved in the creation of a better country. We have come to blame the three branches of our federal government for our troubles, making scapegoats of the very people we have elected to lead us. It is hard to hear and harder again to admit, but many of us do not

experience freedom as the Pilgrims sought to create to. We are fearful instead. Our everyday lives point to this truth.

Consider our overstocked medicine cabinets, burglar alarms, vast ghettos, and drug culture. Eighteen-hundred New Yorkers are murdered every year by their fellow citizens in a city whose police department is larger than the standing army of many nations.

We have become fearful of one another. We seem to have lost our way on that journey to a better country. Where is the vision of the Pilgrim people? Why do we cower in fear and confusion, choosing to attempt to outrun the darkness rather than turn and say with conviction, "Enough!". Those people of varied races and religious tradition and ages who have taken such a stand against corruption in their individual communities have made a difference, they have shined a light into the darkness and recaptured a vision of a better country. May God bless them, and our native land!

The time has come again for the people of God to become a Pilgrim people! The time has come again for the people of God to say what they believe, and to set sail on a journey that will lead us all to a better country. What am I saying? Leave America for another place?

Not at all! Despite her flaws, America is yet the greatest nation on earth, for people still risk their lives to make this land their home. Hear me now! I am calling us to recapture the vision of a better country. And to lift up that vision. I am calling us to work together, beginning right here in our own community, to shape a better country so that the little children around us can grow up in a better world. I am calling us to be done with the idiocy of self-centered pettiness that only desecrates, divides, and denigrates the World of God. I am calling us to catch the vision of a better country, and to lift it high in the name of our blessed Lord, Jesus Christ, who has already journeyed ahead of us, calling, "Follow me!"

How do we do this? How do we answer this call? We begin by doing away with the habit of blaming others for our troubles. We become more proactive and less reactive. I say this to you in response to the challenge before us:

1. Pray without ceasing that God will use you and this congregation to build a better country. Every great change in the nation began in the minds and hearts and spirits of the people who helped make this country great. Change may be facilitated "out there", but it must begin in here, in the mind and heart and spirit of the individual. And in the home towns of America.

2. Pray to forgive those who divide and deride; counsel them to repent and turn to the Lord, so their vision may be outward and upward rather than inward and downward. Remember John Kennedy's words: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country!". Then do it.

3. Open your eyes and your mind to see where your unique, personal gifts can be used to help make life better. For example, offer to ring a bell at a Salvation Army kettle, join hands with others at work in one of our city soup kitchens or other missions, assist as a hospital volunteer, give blood: one pint of that vital fluid may save a life, sign on the line on the back of your driver's license and commit yourself to becoming an organ donor (hundred of thousands of lives could be saved annually if more of us would do this), visit the hospitalized, run an errand for one who is ill, comfort the afflicted, challenge the comfortable, teach in our Sunday School. You get the idea. The need is great; open your eyes and minds and respond.

4. Contact our elected representatives and urge them to remember and act on the words

of our sixteenth president, that our government may be of, by and for the people. Rather than deride the people you elected to represent you, work with them to shape a brighter, better future for all who call America home.

5. Live each day as if it were your last, devoting energy to those profoundly simple acts of discipleship we discover by lifting up faith, hope and love. And, in that instant, make a difference for good and to God's glory in the life of someone else. Do you begin to realize what a radical difference you can initiate simply by lifting up the values and mores which helped build this country, those aspects of national character which begin on our hearths and in our hearts as we teach our children about God and goodness and grace?

Yes, Christians are always in search of a better country. Those who take their faith seriously endeavor to move beyond a feel-good religion to a follow-Jesus faith. The choice, really, is up to you. You can sit morosely by, captured by a culture of complaint and complacency, or you can let the living God fill your sails with the wind of His Spirit, empowering you to move forward on that journey to a better country.

The America of tomorrow awaits your decision to act. Decide wisely, pilgrim, for you touch the trembling, fragile future with your individual hands and hearts. May God bless America. May God bless you. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF LIBERATION OF SURVIVORS STAMP

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this morning I joined with Senator CARL LEVIN, Postmaster General Runyan, and Postal Governor David Fineman to present a framed enlargement of the liberation of survivors stamp to the U.S. Holocaust Museum.

It is appropriate that we are presenting this stamp this year, as we observe the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camps by U.S. Armed Forces. This Holocaust stamp pays tribute to the many thousands of American soldiers whose considerable self-sacrifice and heroism as liberators of the death camps led to the disclosure of the truth, and to the enormity of such crimes against the Jewish people and humanity. The liberators' selfless dedication will never be forgotten, just as those who perished will never be forgotten.

Year after year there are fewer witnesses remaining among us. The efforts of institutions like the U.S. Holocaust Museum and the U.S. Postal Service in commemorating this historical event will help ensure that the future generations will not forget the Holocaust. We must remember that we must fight every day in the war against ignorance and bigotry. It is our responsibility to remain forever vigilant, as we pursue justice for ourselves and for others throughout the world who face oppression.

A TRIBUTE TO HARDY L. BROWN

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to bring to your attention today the fine

work and outstanding public service of Hardy Brown. Hardy, the first African-American man to serve two terms as vice president and then two terms as president of the Board of Education of the San Bernardino City Unified School District, is retiring after 12 remarkable years of service with the board. He will be honored for his service at a dinner in his honor on December 14.

Hardy Brown was administered the oath of office for the board of education on December 6, 1983, and was elected vice president of the board for the 1985–86 school year. Shortly thereafter, he was elected as the first black male president of the board and served for both the 1987–88 and 1988–89 school years. In addition, he has served as a representative to the CSBA Delegate Assembly for the 1990–91 and 1992–93 school years, and has served CSBA in many diverse leadership roles.

The San Bernardino City Unified School District is the ninth largest in California with over 44,000 students, 60 percent of whom are minorities. Through his service to the board of education, Hardy Brown has been a thoughtful and dedicated advocate for providing equal educational opportunities to all children in our community. He is also well known and respected by community leaders, parents, clergy, business people, political leaders, representatives of higher education, and civil rights groups.

Hardy Brown has a great deal of experience with multiethnic, multicultural, and varied socioeconomic groups. His enthusiasm, commitment, and expertise in alternative programs addressing at-risk students, guidance, dropout prevention, school safety, and vocational education has made him particularly influential and well respected. Most importantly, his leadership style encourages creative and innovative ideas to deal with the greatest challenges facing education and society today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Hardy Brown's family, and many friends in recognizing his extraordinary work and selfless public service. His dedication to education and making a real difference in the lives of children is an example worthy of emulation by all of us. It is only fitting that the House pay tribute to Hardy Brown today.

TRIBUTE TO PERRY ANDERSON, JR.

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Perry Anderson, Jr., who is currently the police commissioner of the Cambridge Police Department in Cambridge, MA.

Commissioner Anderson has led a successful and distinguished career. He worked for the Miami Police Department for many years. During his tenure he rose from the ranks of police officer to the appointment of chief of police before retiring in 1991. His steadfastness is seen through his many police and executive positions. Most notably was his position as major in charge of the community relations section and deputy and assistant chief in charge of the criminal investigation division.

Commissioner Anderson's dedication to the Police Force is truly commendable. He has re-

ceived great recognition for founding and implementing reverse sting operations in Miami, developing methods to curtail civil disturbances, and has authored various texts on sound managerial concepts and programs. Commissioner Anderson is also the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in the armed services. In July 1992, he was elected the national president of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.

I applaud the accomplishments of Commissioner Perry L. Anderson and would like to extend my congratulations and best wishes for his many years of service to safeguard others. As a paragon of leadership he has enabled many people to live with a bettered sense of security.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN ROARK ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish Mr. John Roark a happy, and well deserved retirement. John is a trusted friend, and I always welcome the opportunity to talk with him about issues affecting the 19th Congressional District of Illinois.

Throughout his professional career John has worked hard to help improve his community. For 3 years he owned his own business, has 13 years teaching experience, was director of Organization for American Federation of Teachers for Illinois and Wisconsin, and has worked with the Macon-Dewitt Job Training Program Administration [JTPA] for 17 years. John will retire as the executive director of the Macon-Dewitt JTPA, and I am proud to join with his family and friends in celebrating his decades of community service.

Mr. Speaker, John Roark is a friend of many in central Illinois. He will be missed at the Macon-Dewitt JTPA, but I am confident that John will continue to discover new ways to help his community during his retirement. I want to take this opportunity to once again thank John for his decades of commitment to the people of the State of Illinois and wish him a healthy and memorable retirement.

A SALUTE TO NOVELLA LYONS OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Mrs. Novella Lyons on the occasion of her retirement from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare and to congratulate her on her many years of service to the Philadelphia community.

In 1960, Mrs. Novella Lyons began her tenure with the department of public welfare. She has proudly held several positions within the department from repayment adjuster to income maintenance caseworker. In 1989, Mrs. Lyons received the Employee of the Year Award and has since served as chairperson

for the SECA campaign. Mrs. Lyons is an outstanding individual who should be commended for her contributions to the Philadelphia community.

Mrs. Lyons has also played a vital role in many programs in the Philadelphia community as an active member of the Cnaan Baptist Church, where she began working with the social service committee and the breast cancer support group. She was instrumental in organizing the breast cancer support group where her primary goals were to provide educational resources, international workshops, and spiritual uplifting. Through Mrs. Lyons' efforts, over 100 women have been reached throughout the Philadelphia area.

I wish to join today with the department of public welfare, Mrs. Lyons' family and friends in recognizing her for her many years of service with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare and the Philadelphia community. I wish her health, happiness, and prosperity in her retirement years. It is well deserved.

TRIBUTE TO SALLY HAVICE FOR SERVICE TO THE ABC SCHOOL BOARD

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Ms. Sally Havice as she steps down from the presidency of the ABC School Board. Sally was first elected to the school board in 1989 and was reelected to a second term in 1993. As board president, she chaired several committees, including the School Safety Committee and the District Goals Committee. During her leadership, she initiated a code of conduct for the members of the board.

Sally has devoted much of her life to improving herself and giving to others through education. After attending business college, she had a successful career in municipal government. She later returned to school to pursue a bachelor's degree and teaching credential that enabled her to realize her life-long ambition of becoming a teacher. She earned two associate in arts degrees from Cerritos College; one in social studies and the other in Spanish. She went on to receive her bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in linguistics, with doctoral studies at USC and the University of Hawaii. During her active professional and academic career, she raised three sons: Edward, Raul, and Joseph. She is also grandmother to seven children.

For the last 22 years, Sally has been a professor of English at Cerritos College. She teaches English composition and literature, as well as speech communication. She also served as interim assistant dean of liberal arts and community liaison for the cultural arts. Her work on campus also has included participation on numerous committees such as the Citizen's Resource Advisory, Cerritos College Faculty Association Executive Board, and the faculty senate, which selected her after her first term as outstanding faculty senator.

Sally's involvement in the community has been extensive and impressive. She helped to implement the cultural performing arts after-school program. This unique music and dance

instruction program benefits hundreds of children in Artesia, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, La Mirada, and Norwalk. She is a member of the Southeast Area Task Force on Youth Violence, and an executive board member of the "Su Casa" Family Violence Center. Other memberships in area organizations include the Southeast Regional Occupations Program, the Latina Leadership Network, Comision Femenil, the National Women's Political Caucus, the American Association of University Women, the State Superintendent of Public Education's Advisory Committee, the Optimist International, the League of United Latin-American Citizens, and the Asian Indian Women's Rights Group. She has also been president of the Cerritos College Faculty Association, in addition to having served as vice president and secretary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting a model public servant. It is with great pride that we pay tribute to Sally Havice for her dedicated service to the ABC Unified School District.

TRIBUTE TO JUDY BLUESTONE

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Judy Bluestone, winner of the State of Israel Bonds—Golda Meir Division Leadership Award of 1995. The award will be presented tonight at a gala event in Milwaukee.

The Leadership Award is bestowed on those who provide outstanding leadership and devotion to Jewish values of community and compassion in the spirit of Golda Meir. Judy Bluestone, through her voluntarism and dedication to our community, exemplifies the intent of the award.

Judy Bluestone's efforts have focused on improving the lives of children. As a speech pathologist at St. Francis Children's Center, through her involvement with the Wisconsin Alliance for Children, and more recently as chair of Start Smart! Milwaukee, Judy Bluestone has been a successful advocate for children. She recognizes and promotes the importance of nurturing environments for all children.

The Leadership Award also commends a lifelong commitment to the Jewish people and the State of Israel. Here again, Judy Bluestone has achieved distinction with her involvement as a board member of the Jewish Community Center, and executive committee member of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation Women's Division. Her leadership and dedication is a lasting tribute to the spirit of Golda Meir and the prominent role women have played in Israel's growth and development.

I congratulate Judy Bluestone, along with her supportive husband Stanton, on her selection as the 1995 State of Israel Bonds Leadership Award winner.

NEW FACILITY TO BE NAMED CHARLES A. HAYES POST OFFICE

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by my friend and Illinois colleague, Representative DENNIS HASTERT in introducing legislation naming a United States Postal Facility in Chicago as the "Charles A. Hayes Post Office." The post office, to be located in the 2600 block of E. 75th Street in Chicago is currently under construction and will open in November 1996.

Congressman Charles A. Hayes was first elected to Congress in 1983, in a special election, succeeding former Member of Congress, Harold Washington who resigned from the House after being sworn in as Mayor of Chicago. He was the First international union leader to be elected to Congress and spent his early years as a working man, organizing his first union and elected to his first union office as President of Local 1424 of the Carpenter's International Union at age 20.

Congressman Hayes went on to secure bargaining rights for workers in Chicago's stockyards through the United Packinghouse Workers of America. In 1954 he was elected District Director of the Packinghouse Union and moved continuously through the ranks and after several mergers, became International Vice President of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, then the largest union in the AFL-CIO. Rising from the small town of Cairo, IL, "Charlie" became one of the most important labor leaders in America.

Charlie was urged by labor leaders throughout Chicago to run for the Congressional seat vacated by Mayor Harold Washington. He won the August Democratic Primary, defeating 13 other Democratic contenders and was sworn into Congress in September of 1983.

Former Congressman Hayes fought fiercely to protect American jobs, has been active in the fight to increase Federal funds for schools, to increase funds for public works, protections for civil rights and the rights of ordinary workers. He introduced full employment legislation and denounced unemployment as "morally unacceptable" while politicians were arguing about how best to cut taxes on the rich. He supported National Health Insurance from his earliest union days and is the only Member of Congress with a 100 percent lifetime voting record on issues important to labor.

Prior to his departure, Congressman Charles A. Hayes chaired the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service Subcommittee on Postal Personnel and Modernization. He was known to his friends as the "Labor Democrat" and long recognized as a first-rate public servant and first-class friend, worked hard to make sure that workers across the country had food on the table, had pensions that were protected and were safe on the job.

Charlie's frequent calls for "Regular Order" on the House floor have been missed. We are pleased to honor his efforts on behalf of working Americans. We urge our Illinois colleagues to cosponsor this measure.

IN HONOR OF GERALDINE BARBARA POSNER

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call my colleagues attention to the passing of a great American—Mrs. Geraldine Barbara Posner. Mrs. Posner served in the Air Force Nurse Corps and was among the first to land at Normandy.

After returning from the war, she continued her education and served as a training supervisor for the D.C. Department of Human Resources. Mrs. Posner was a beloved constituent and a patriot. Please join with me in honoring her memory.

GERALDINE BARBARA POSNER

Geraldine Barbara Posner, 73, a former captain in the Air Force Nurse Corps and a retired nurse in-service training supervisor for the D.C. Department of Human Resources, died of cancer Sept. 28 at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda.

Capt. Posner, who lived in Alexandria, entered the Army Nurse Corps in 1944 and, after basic training, landed on Normandy beaches shortly after D-Day, setting up combat field hospitals. After World War II, she was assigned to various military hospitals and received a commission in the Air Force in 1948.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., she received a diploma in nursing from Mercy Hospital in Springfield, Mass. After leaving the military in 1952, she received a nursing degree from Adelphi University in New York.

She also took postgraduate nursing courses at Hofstra College before settling in the Washington area in 1960. She began a seven-year career with the D.C. Department of Human Resources in 1970.

Survivors include her husband, retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Jack I. Posner of Alexandria; three daughters, Geraldine A. Porter of Marshall, Va., Air Force Maj. Jacqueline B. Posner of Alexandria and Ginnear C. Quisenberry of Enterprise, Ala.; two sons, Air Force Lt. Col. John D. Posner of Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.; and Air Force Capt. Joseph R. Posner of Robins Air Force Base, Ga.; three sisters, Carol Fleury of Holyoke, Mass., Janice Devine of Ware, Mass., and Lorraine Curley of Centerville, Mass.; and three grandchildren.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 29, 1995, I was unavoidably absent from the House on official travel and missed four recorded votes. Had I been here, I would have voted "No" on rollcall No. 833, the motion to table the measure House Resolution 288; "yes" on rollcall No. 832, the vote on final passage of H.R. 1788, to authorize appropriations for AMTRAK; "yes" on rollcall No. 831, the Nadler amendment to H.R. 1788; and "yes" on rollcall No. 830, the Collins Illinois amendment to H.R. 1788.

ROMANIAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Romania's national day. On December 1, the people of Romania celebrated the 77th anniversary of the creation of the modern Romanian state. The Romanian nation, of course, is much older, and is one of the culturally richest societies in Europe.

The modern Romanian state arose after World War I and the demise of Austro-Hungarian empire. For most of the ensuing 70 years, Romania's people lived through one difficulty after another, culminating in the long oppressive rule of the communist dictator Nicolai Ceaucescu.

Just as modern Romania was created after the fall of an empire, so too has Romania been renewed by the fall of an empire. The demise of communism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union was welcomed by the Romanian people, who staged a revolution in 1989 that overthrew Ceaucescu and launched the rebirth of their nation. The new Romania has experienced the initial excitement of freedom tempered by the daunting realities of rebuilding its economy, solidifying democracy and catching up with the rest of Europe.

Mr. Speaker, I visited Romania earlier this year and have seen the hard work and commitment of its people. Romania is making steady progress on all fronts. The economy has been invigorated by the expanding role of the private sector and is growing at a healthy pace; Romania's multi-party parliament debates legislation openly and the free press has grown. Romania has expressed a strong desire to join NATO, affirming its desire to become a permanent member of the western camp of democracies. Next year, Romania like the United States, will hold an election for president. This election must and will be democratic, hotly contested and widely covered by the media.

Romania still has a long way to go. There is much to be done but the direction is clear. After 77 years of hardship, things are finally beginning to look up for the Romanian people. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the people of Romania on their national day anniversary and expressing our support for Romania's continued progress.

A TRADITION COMES TO A CLOSE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, as the year comes to a close, a tradition also comes to a close in Denton, NC. I am, of course, referring to the sad departure of the Denton Record. I join with many other readers in saying we will miss our weekly copy of the Denton Record.

For years, Ed and Venus Wallace have kept the people of Denton and the surrounding area informed with news of community inter-

est. The daily comings and goings of the hard-working men and women of Denton and their families were chronicled in the weekly publication of the Denton Record. News both big and small found a place in its pages. If it happened in Denton, you could read about it in the Denton Record.

In many ways, the Denton Record was a throwback to a bygone era. The newspaper has been published since 1940, the Wallaces have operated the Denton Record since 1962, and they have owned it since 1984. What made the weekly paper unique was that it cared about the community in which it was published. The citizens of Denton responded in kind and supported the Record for more than half a century. In this era of corporate-owned media giants, it was quite refreshing to have your hometown newspaper published by homegrown people. All of that will come to end with the end of 1995.

We will miss reading Venus' "Squibbles" column. We will miss Suzy's photos of sporting events and Miss Denton pageants. We will miss Ed's steady hand which has guided the paper through its weekly scramble to write headlines and meet deadlines. Most of all we will miss knowing that if something happened in Denton we could read about in the Denton Record.

On behalf of the citizens of the sixth district of North Carolina, we offer our congratulations to the Wallaces for decades of newspaper excellence and best wishes for life after the Denton Record.

TIM COUCH'S STANDOUT PREP CAREER

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, just this week, the Nation's football fans enjoyed a passing of the torch, or the football, in the National Football League. Miami Dolphins Quarterback Dan Marino, who recently became the NFL's all-time yardage leader, surpassed Fran Tarkenton's touchdown passes record.

The day before Marino's recordbreaking day, Kentucky's own recordbreaking prep quarterback struck again, too. Leslie County High School's Tim Couch, a legend at the prep level, threw his 133rd touchdown pass to become the all-time high school touchdown pass career leader. Tim's 1-yard pass to Jonathan Morgan on the last play of his high school career broke Bobby Lucht's national record in dramatic fashion.

Like Marino, Tim Couch had already become the all-time high school passing yardage leader by shattering Josh Booty's national passing record the week before. Couch completed his illustrious high school career with 12,092 yards. He also is the all-time leader in completions (872) and completed an outstanding 63.6 percent of his passes.

Recently featured in a two-page Sports Illustrated article, Tim Couch has given Leslie County, eastern Kentucky, and all of America's football fans something to stand up and shout about.

Tim, who is an A-B student, is also a standout basketball player (he averaged more than 36 points per game last year) and part of the wonderful community spirit and pride of Hyden and Leslie County.

Not only did this community of 375 rally around their favorite son, they brought out the best in their team (an 11-3 record) and the entire region.

Tim Couch's success provides hope not only for every aspiring young football player, but for his community and everyone who knows this very talented young man from the mountains with the desire and ability to make it big. He has set a standard of excellence for Leslie County, its young people and the entire Nation. I know that Tim will continue to be an excellent example for all to follow.

Congratulations on your standout prep career, Tim, and good luck in your future. Let's hope you are the one removing Dan Marino's name from the NFL's record books.

HONORING MARY GORMLEY

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Gormley, who was recently elected President of the Virginia Congress of Parents and Teachers—Virginia PTA—during the association's annual convention in Richmond.

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Mary for over 16 years during my terms serving on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and since joining this honorable Chamber. Mary has been active in the PTA for more than 20 years, and has also been involved in many other community and school related activities. She has chaired or served on the executive Boards of a variety of committees. She chaired the Volunteers for the International Children's Festival, held annually at Wolftrap Farm Park in Vienna, VA. She was President of the Annandale High School Band Boosters as well as President of the Annandale High School PTSA. She also has served as Secretary and Membership Chairman of the Fairfax Committee of 100, and as 1st and 2nd Vice President of the Fairfax County Council of PTA's. Additionally, Mary has served on various Fairfax County School Board committees including, School Consolidation, Substance Abuse, and the Division Superintendent Dr. Robert Spillane's Advisory Committee to name a few.

On the road to attaining the prestigious position of Virginia State PTA President Mary served on the State level as 1st and 2nd Vice President.

Mary's many years of giving have been recognized by her receiving an Honorary Life Membership in the National PTA; an Honorary Life Membership in the Virginia PTA; Lady Fairfax for the Fairfax County Fair, and Commendations from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board.

Mary is the wife of Brian Gormley and the proud mother of 3 children, Sean, Matthew, and Brienne Gormley.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring Mary Gormley, a woman who puts not only the good of the community, but our children's education and well-being ahead of herself.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY'S
CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the resolution congratulating Northwestern University's championship football team, the Wildcats, for its 1995 Big Ten Conference Championship and for its invitation to the 1996 Rose Bowl.

For the second time in its 122-year history, Northwestern is going to a bowl game. The 1995 winning season represents an unprecedented turnaround for Northwestern football.

Northwestern University has won the Big Ten Conference Championship with a perfect record in conference play. It recently received its invitation to the Rose Bowl. We will all be watching New Year's Day as the Wildcats play our friends at USC. We will all be cheering with Coach Gary Barnett, just as we cheered 4 years ago, when he first came to Northwestern and promised to take "the Purple to Pasadena."

We celebrate with University's President Henry Bienen, Coach Barnett and his dedicated and hard working team of coaches and athletes. We commend Northwestern University for its Big Ten Championship and for its invitation to the Rose Bowl. Northwestern's academic excellence has never been doubted; now let no one doubt its athletic excellence. Everyone wondered how this miracle occurred, but for Northwestern fans, it wasn't a question of how, but a question of when.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to join us in celebrating Northwestern football.

TRIBUTE TO CARMEN LOMAS
GARZA

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a very unique artist from Kingsville, TX, whose works illuminate the life and times of south Texans. Carmen Lomas Garza's impressionistic paintings illustrate the various aspects of life in our native community through the eyes of her childhood and can now be seen at the Smithsonian Museum.

Her exhibit, now showing at the Hirshorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, is entitled: "Directions: Carmen Lomas Garza." Her work inspired a popular children's book. Children's Book Press of San Francisco saw the wisdom of illustrating her paintings with short descriptions of what the paintings show.

Cuadros de familia—Family Pictures—is Children's Book Press' best seller, selling over 195,000 copies. It includes 32 reflections of the Mexican-American life in south Texas. It is an ideal gift for a youngster at Christmas.

As a child, the artist was teased and punished for speaking Spanish in school. But as she grew older and wiser, she used her art as a bridge to get past her anger, and to reflect her pride in our culture.

Her work is a touching glossary of childhood memories in Kingsville, TX. The scenes she depicts include: her grandfather peacefully watering his corn; the local faith healer expelling the flu from a neighbor; and a community cakewalk to raise money to send young people to college.

She told me about the peace she found growing up in south Texas with her family, and her desire to pass that along to the next generation through her art. She remembers the times we all remember with our family, eating on the front porch, making tamales, picking oranges, swimming in the Gulf of Mexico, and celebrating birthdays.

One of the most memorable paintings—and one just purchased by the Smithsonian for its permanent collection—is a tribute to her mother who supported her dreams of becoming an artist. The painting portrays the artist and her sister laying on the roof dreaming under the stars as their mother prepares their beds. Lomas Garza describes her mother as laying out the bed for our dreams of the future.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I highly recommend this exhibit to you and your constituents.

SALUTE TO HOMETOWN HEROES

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Gerri Schmidt and Robin Dorman of Branford, CT for their truly heroic effort to save the lives of three small children from a fire last Wednesday. These women displayed inspiring selflessness in aiding their neighbors and dousing the flames that engulfed a local condominium.

According to the authorities with the Branford Fire Department, three children aged 5, 3, and 14 months are alive and well today because of these two fine women. Careless playing with matches by one of the children is said to have caused the blaze.

Yesterday, as Gerri Schmidt walked her dog and Robin Dorman backed her car out of the drive, an elderly woman raced from a condominium on Watch Hill Road, screaming, "Fire! Fire!" Schmidt and Dorman ran to the woman who told them of the children trapped by the fire inside the building.

Not thinking of themselves, these women raced inside. There Schmidt found the five-year-old and the three-year-old in a bedroom and the 14-month-old in a hallway and carried them outside to safety. Dorman, meanwhile, ran up the stairs through heavy smoke and beat back the flames with a blanket. By the time the firefighters arrived on the scene, the children were safe and the flames were nearly extinguished.

Real life heroes are all too rare in this day and age. Gerri Schmidt and Robin Dorman have earned our praise, our thanks, our admiration and our acknowledgement, and I want to recognize them for their bravery.

Webster's Dictionary defines heroism as "fulfilling high purpose or attaining a noble

end." On behalf of the House of Representatives, I would like to extend my praise of Gerri Schmidt and Robin Dorman who truly define heroism. Thanks to our hometown heroes.

THE BEST SMALL TOWN IN
AMERICA

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Essex, CT, on being named the Best Small Town in America by author Norman Crampton. Mr. Crampton's book, "The 100 Best Small Towns in America," recognizes Essex for qualities its residents, and people across Connecticut, have appreciated for many years. The residents, officials, and business people of the community should be very proud of this honor, which acknowledges their commitment to their community.

Mr. Crampton ranked towns across the Nation using several criteria, including per capita income, crime rate, public school expenditure per pupil, and percentage of population with a bachelor's degree. While every survey seeking to rate communities relies on similar factors, the author also considered community efforts to provide housing to all income groups and to encourage residents to play an active role in town affairs.

In the final analysis, Essex rose above every other small town in America to be named No. 1. Since settlers first came to the area in the mid-1600's, Essex, which encompasses the villages of Centerbrook, Ivoryton, and Essex, has distinguished itself. For much of the 18th and early-19th centuries, Essex was known as a world-class shipbuilding center. In fact, the first ship commissioned by the U.S. Navy in 1775, the *Oliver Cromwell*, was built in Essex and provided to our fledgling Government by the State of Connecticut. In addition to building the ships which were the lifeline of commerce in the 1700's and 1800's, Essex was an important commercial port for trade throughout the world, especially between the eastern United States and the islands of the Caribbean. The village of Ivoryton was so named because Essex was home to one of the leading manufacturers of piano keys. Manufacturers in Essex also helped to pioneer commercial production of which hazel and the community remains home to one of the world's largest distillers of this product.

Mr. Speaker, it is obvious to this Member why Essex has been ranked No. 1. The community has something to offer to everyone. Families can take advantage of first-rate public schools, affordable housing, and local employment opportunities. Lying on the banks of the lower Connecticut River, Essex boasts tidal flats and marshes, coves and inlets which provide valuable habitat for many species of fish, wildlife and birds. Visitors can enjoy leisurely rides on the Connecticut Valley Railroad, affectionately known by locals as the Essex Steamtrain, and conclude their day with a great meal at the historic Griswold Inn, which has been serving visitors for more than 200 years.

During the course of writing his book, Mr. Crampton interviewed citizens in communities around the Nation. His conversations with

those in Essex highlighted another characteristic which makes this community special—the volunteer spirit of its residents. Until recently, virtually every local official served without pay and many continue to do so today. Fires are fought by volunteers, school playgrounds are built by parents, and elections are monitored by civic-minded citizens who never receive a penny for their dedication to their community. Mr. Richard Gamble summed up the contribution of Essex's residents by saying "we're unusually blessed by people who are not only capable, but willing to spend the time."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to joint residents from Essex in celebrating this much deserved honor. Parochially, I believe every small town across the Second Congressional District could qualify for the No. 1 spot. However, today we celebrate the achievements of this community and welcome people from across the country to come join us in America's No. 1 Small Town—Essex.

TRIBUTE TO THE NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS

HON. SIDNEY R. YATES

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. YATES. Mr. Speaker, our long, long wait is over. The Northwestern Wildcats are going to the Rose Bowl.

The last time Northwestern went to the Rose Bowl was in 1949, my first year in Congress. Back then we all thought there was a dynasty in the making; we felt sure the Wildcats would play in the Rose Bowl for years to come. I never dreamed that I'd have to wait 46 years to see this moment again. But I am a patient man and this victory is well worth the wait. And knowing both the 1949 team and our current champions, I feel safe in saying that the Wildcats, like Congressmen, improve with age.

Thanks to a dedicated and talented Wildcat team, the leadership and patience of its coach, Gary Barnett, and the continuing insistence of Northwestern President Henry S. Bienen and Chancellor Arnold R. Weber that a university could simultaneously have academic and athletic excellence, the Big Ten Champion Wildcats will be playing in Pasadena on New Year's Day. These are accomplishments which should be celebrated in an era of athlete factories and degree mill universities. The Wildcats have the second highest team average SAT score in all of NCAA Division I. Newsweek notes that every one of Gary Barnett's players who didn't transfer to another school has continued on to graduation. The Wildcats, with grace and spirit, demonstrated that winning and learning are not inconsistent.

It is out of this incredible pride that I feel for Northwestern that I am today introducing a resolution which recognizes the amazing accomplishments of the Wildcats and congratulates them on winning the 1995 Big Ten Championship and on receiving the coveted invitation to compete in the 1996 Rose Bowl.

As an old alum from the University of Chicago, I long considered the Wildcats to be bitter rivals. But today, we are all Northwestern fans.

And regardless of the final outcome of the game, the Wildcats and all of Northwestern are winners.

REAL TALK ABOUT MEDICARE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues an opinion piece in today's Washington Post. Professors Jerry Mashaw and Theodore Marmor provide a straight to the point analysis of what maintaining the best health insurance program in the world, Medicare, requires.

REAL TALK ABOUT MEDICARE

Although Medicare reform has been at the very center of the budget negotiations between Congress and the administration, much of the political discussion on this issue has been about as thoughtful as a food fight.

Republicans have made the claim that Medicare faces bankruptcy and offered their "Medicare Preservation Act," cutting \$270 billion in projected spending on the program in order to "preserve, protect and strengthen" the program. Democrats respond that this would mean Medicare's destruction and that big cuts are unnecessary—except to facilitate tax cuts for the rich while keeping the Republican promise to eliminate the deficit.

Behind this unilluminating, alarmist debate there are some hard facts that need to be considered:

Medicare does need fiscal adjustment. A 10 percent annual growth rate in program costs is simply not sustainable in the long run. Changes in longevity, medical technology, cultural conceptions of adequate medical care, national fiscal capacity and a host of other factors demand that any long-term program of medical insurance accept periodic adjustments. Rigid defense of the status quo is silly. But so is the demand for "preservation" by complete overhaul. Reformers should attend to the many small adjustments that really will preserve a highly valued program. They should not search for some untried one big thing that will "fix" the system for all time.

Talk of the projected "bankruptcy" of the "trust fund" is an unhelpful way to think about the urgency of Medicare's financial problems. The trust fund is an accounting convention signaling that Medicare's hospital insurance (Part A) is financed by earmarked taxes. If time is needed to make sensible, gradual adjustments in Medicare, the "fund" for Part A can be increased by extremely modest new taxes or by temporary transfers from the surpluses in the Social Security retirement accounts. In any event, no one is going to wake up some Saturday morning to find that his hospital coverage has suddenly ceased because Medicare is "broke."

Costs are not the only problem. For example, major elements in the treatment of chronic disease are not covered by Medicare, nor are pharmaceutical therapies and long-term care. These gaps not only ensure that the program fails to meet important needs of the elderly and the disabled, they also promote costly gaming of the system. To get Medicare payments for nursing home care, patients must be cycled through hospital stays, whether needed or not. Personal assistance must be provided by highly paid nurses, even if the "medical" content of the care is minimal.

Reform should concentrate on helping Medicare meet the genuine needs of beneficiaries and avoid artificial boundaries that cannot, in any case, be policed effectively. Broadened coverage need not necessarily be the enemy of cost control and in some instances may be its ally.

Let this proposal for expanded coverage suggest we have lost touch with fiscal reality, we must emphasize that the costs of care may be reduced in many ways. Less expensive forms of care can substitute for more heroic interventions. Unnecessary and marginally necessary care can be lessened. The amounts paid for particular interventions can be restrained.

But reformers should remember that Medicare administrators have been quite successful at constraining costs when given the tools and political support to do so. They can be even more effective in the current context, in which private insurers are doing similar things. Providers now have nowhere to hide from system-wide demands for cost control.

Taxes can be raised. So can premiums. Anyone who thinks that an earmarked tax for a popular program can't be increased marginally in the current political climate simply has not been paying attention to what we have been doing over the past decade—or to what opinion polls say Americans will support. On the other hand, there is no reason that a program originally designed to prevent financial catastrophe for the elderly and disabled should use general revenues to subsidize 80 percent of all their expenditures for physician services (Part B). Some of these costs can and should be distributed differently. In other words, reform should (and almost surely will) require some adjustments in current payment arrangements: who pays, how much and through what types of levies, charges or deductibles.

Finally, those who are old or disabled—and also sick—deserve a more patient-friendly system of health insurance. Offering them a smorgasbord of private insurance alternatives may appeal to those for whom "privatization" is the presumptive answer to all questions of public policy. The political and economic realities, however, are very different.

This type of "freedom of choice," not of doctors but of "plans," would increase the administrative costs and complexity of Medicare while driving most of the old and the sick to distraction. How it would save federal dollars remains a mystery. Moreover, responsible privatization would actually require massive federal regulation of the insurance industry to try to prevent "cherry picking" of the better risks and cost shifting between the Medicare and non-Medicare patients by insurers covering both.

The earlier proposal for mandatory HMOs for all generated effective political resistance—and for good reason. Most HMOs have catered to a quite different and much healthier slice of the population. Whether HMOs can serve the elderly and disabled well, and at reduced costs, is unknown.

Reforming Medicare will be neither simple nor painless, and wise solutions are unlikely to emerge from political processes that distort the real issues and the real alternatives. President Clinton should veto virtually any Medicare "reform" that emerges from the current, overheated, political context. The president should then remind Sen. Bob Dole and his congressional colleagues of the senator's earlier suggestion for a presidential commission on Medicare that would not report until after the 1996 elections. Handing off to a commission really is the right thing to do now just as it was in achieving sensible tension reforms in the early 1980s.

NATO ENLARGEMENT AND RUSSIA

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 1995, I wrote to Secretary of State Christopher concerning a study on NATO enlargement, issued by NATO in September 1995. I asked a number of questions about the study and the Russia factor in NATO policy. On November 28, 1995, I received a detailed reply from the State Department. I would like to bring the correspondence to the attention of my colleagues. The text follows:

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS,

Washington, DC, October 10, 1995.

Hon. WARREN CHRISTOPHER,
Secretary, Department of State,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I write with respect to the recent study on NATO enlargement, issued by NATO on September 20, 1995. I would like to ask a number of questions about the study and about the Russia factor in NATO policy.

1. The North Atlantic Council communique of May 30, 1995 states: "When the members of the Alliance decide to invite new members, their objective will be to enhance security for all countries in Europe, without creating dividing lines."

How will NATO enlargement enhance the security of those European states that are not invited to join NATO?

How will NATO enlargement enhance security in Europe if key European powers—Russia, and perhaps states not invited to join NATO—oppose that enlargement?

How can NATO enlargement avoid creating new dividing lines in Europe?

2. The study of September 20th states: "Russia has raised concerns with respect to the enlargement process of the Alliance."

Does Russia have concerns about enlargement, or does Russia oppose NATO enlargement?

What is the impact of recent NATO airstrikes in Bosnia on Russia's perspective on NATO enlargement?

Does any political figure in Russia today support enlargement of NATO?

How do you respond to the stated views of leading Russian reformers that NATO enlargement undercuts political and economic reform and reformers, and enhances reactionary forces in Russia?

3. President Yeltsin stated last month that NATO's expansion to the "borders of Russia" would "light the fires of war all over Europe."

How do you respond to Russian statements that NATO enlargement will re-create new and hostile blocs in Europe?

4. How do you expect Russia to respond to NATO enlargement?

Would you expect increased pressure by Russia on neighboring states?

Would you expect Russia to repudiate arms control agreements, or try to re-create military alliances?

How would military confrontation between NATO and a non-communist Russia serve the interests of the United States?

5. What is your strategy for convincing Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and other states that NATO enlargement enhances their security?

What precise relationship do you envisage between an enlarged NATO and Russia?

6. The NATO study of September 20th mentions that NATO aims to achieve a "political

framework for NATO-Russia relations" by the end of the year.

What is the content of that proposed NATO-Russia framework?

When the study mentions "elaborating basic principles for security cooperation," what does that mean? What are those basic principles?

When the study mentions "the development of mutual political consultations," what does that mean? How would that differ from current consultation?

7. The NATO study makes the following statements:

(Paragraph 23) "We have agreed that constructive, cooperative relations of mutual respect, benefit and friendship between the Alliance and Russia are a key element for security and stability in Europe."

(Paragraph 27) "NATO decisions, however, cannot be subject to any veto or droit de regard by a non-member state . . ."

How do you reconcile these statements?

If NATO decides to admit new members over the objections of Russia, how would this create constructive, cooperative relations between NATO and Russia?

How would enlargement of NATO over Russia's objections enhance security and stability in Europe?

I appreciate that these questions are difficult, but I believe your answers are important in enhancing articulation and public understanding of U.S. and NATO policy.

I look forward to your early reply.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, November 28, 1995.

DEAR MR. HAMILTON: You have asked a thoughtful series of questions on NATO enlargement and NATO-Russia relations in your October 10 letter to Secretary Christopher. Agreement on a new framework for security cooperation in Europe is a task of historic proportions. Your voice has been one of the most consistent in support of a strong, decisive U.S. role in the world. We have especially appreciated your support for our comprehensive approach to European security, of which NATO enlargement is a very important component.

In preparing this reply, we welcomed the opportunity to review and sharpen our own thinking on these key issues. Because the security situation in Europe is continuously evolving, we and our NATO allies have sought to be flexible in responding to the fundamental changes that have taken place since 1989. However, we have been firm and absolute in our commitment that Alliance policies be inclusive rather than exclusive. This has been especially true in regard to Russia and NATO-Russian relations.

Your letter begins by asking how NATO's eventual enlargement will enhance the security of non-members and avoid the creation of new divisions in Europe. Before turning directly to that question, I want to make two important points. First, the Alliance's failure to expand would not be consistent with the evolutionary changes taking place in Europe. A number of European states have made tremendous political and economic progress in recent years and will soon be ready for full membership in various Western institutions. To exclude the possibility of their eventual NATO membership would condemn these countries to a security "grey zone," which would itself be a source of instability. Moreover, it would freeze the Alliance within artificial boundaries—set by the historical anomaly of the Cold War—at the same time other institutions are adapting to meet new political, economic and security

realities. Instead, as Secretary Christopher has said, "Europe's institutional arrangements should be determined by the objective demands of the present, not the tragedies of Europe's past."

Second, NATO's eventual enlargement will not take place in a vacuum. It represents but one aspect of our approach to the broader evolution of Europe's security architecture. European affairs can no longer be defined within the old "zero-sum" framework; the security of one state is indivisible from the security of all. Bodies such as the European Union (EU), the Western European Union (WEU), the Council of Europe (COE) and especially the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) will each play important roles as economic, political and security institutions continue to adapt and develop over the coming years. Each of these bodies contributes to European integration and stability. While NATO remains the key link between the U.S. and Europe, we should avoid lending credence to the false notion that NATO is the only organization with a direct impact on the European security equation.

It is within this overall framework that NATO can expand without creating new divisions in Europe. Because those states which do not join the Alliance—either early or at all—will continue to participate in European bodies like the OSCE, they will not be excluded from key decision-making institutions. While we reject any suggestion that the OSCE should assume the role of NATO's overseer, we nonetheless recognize that as the only all-European institution the OSCE plays a unique role in setting the European political and security agenda. For that reason, we are supporting the OSCE's ongoing work on a European security model for the next century and have consistently pushed for practical steps to enhance the organization's effectiveness.

Moreover, we do not accept the view that integration can only be achieved through membership in a particular institution. In some cases, membership is appropriate; NATO's expansion process will determine which states should join the Alliance. But in many other cases, active diplomatic engagement with an organization can be almost as useful as membership. A good example of this is the U.S. relationship with the European Union; we may not have a vote in EU councils, but through an active program of consultation and policy coordination we can often influence EU decisions. The two key elements in NATO's evolution and program of outreach have thus been the creation of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council (NACC) and the Partnership for Peace (PFP), which provides fora for non-member states to engage directly and consult closely with NATO.

The NACC and PFP ensure that non-members are able to cooperate with the Alliance on key European security issues. Russia and other states have taken full advantage of the opportunities thus provided to make their views known on a host of issues. Moreover, states which do not eventually join the Alliance can remain active members of the NACC and PFP. The post-expansion Alliance will not shut itself off from the rest of Europe; an enlarged NATO will have the same need for interaction and close relationships with non-members that currently exists. By expanding its membership and by maintaining these important and productive relationships, NATO will avoid either the reality or the appearance of creating new divisions or new blocs in Europe.

Turning to your questions regarding Russian concerns about NATO enlargement and the future of NATO-Russia relations, the Alliance and Russia have a complex, still

evolving relationship, which we hope will become a crucial element of the emerging European security architecture. This is not to suggest that NATO-Russia relations are without strain. As you note, Russian officials have objected to NATO actions in the former Yugoslavia, asserting that the Alliance acted without properly consulting other interested states. While we reject such contentions—NATO acted under a clear UN Security Council mandate—the fact remains that many Russians perceive themselves and their country as having been marginalized. Similarly, President Yeltsin and other senior Russian officials have voiced serious concerns about NATO's enlargement, often in quite stark terms.

Although Moscow's opposition to NATO enlargement is often based on misperceptions, we nevertheless recognize that these arguments must be addressed. Similarly, Russian concerns about their stature in European affairs are real, but our bilateral discussions—most recently at Hyde Park—have made clear that both sides remain committed to promoting Russia's integration into key Western structures. The Russian leadership understands that altering or otherwise slowing this course would only isolate Russia and hinder reform at home. While we must be careful neither to underestimate nor exaggerate the importance of European security matters in Russian domestic politics, Russian views will continue to evolve and we must be prepared for a lengthy—and sometimes heated—dialogue with the Russian government.

To put the broader issue of NATO-Russia relations in context, you should recall that the Alliance has engaged in a concerted effort to develop a close, cooperative partnership with the new Russia. Even before the break-up of the Soviet Union, NATO had sought to establish productive, non-adversarial relations with Moscow. With the dissolution of both the Warsaw Pact and the USSR, NATO created the North Atlantic Cooperation Council and the Russian Federation became one of its first members. This consultative arrangement set the stage for the establishment early last year of the Partnership for Peace, which Russia joined in June 1994. Within PFP, Russia has had the opportunity to engage directly with the Alliance to develop the capability of working with NATO in support of common interests and goals in Europe.

Moreover, under the "Beyond PFP" arrangement approved this past May, NATO and Russia have agreed to take their relationship a step further in terms of consultations and active cooperation. Finally, as you note in your letter, the Alliance has offered to develop a "political framework" for future NATO-Russia relations. As we envision it, in the near term NATO and Russia would agree on the basic principles which would guide the relationship well into the 21st century; NATO has already tabled a draft—which draws heavily on existing documents and agreements—for Russia's consideration. Once the final principles are hammered out, we would work together to turn them into a more formal, long-term understanding that would facilitate NATO-Russian cooperation.

Russia, therefore, already has a quite significant relationship with NATO. The key determinant in how our relations develop will be Russia's implementation of the various partnership mechanisms now available. This is an ongoing, evolutionary process, which will certainly be affected to some degree by the domestic political climate in Russia. We remain convinced, however, that Russian government will recognize that it is to Moscow's advantage to develop and maintain a close relationship with the Alliance as part of Russia's overall policy toward Eu-

rope. While no Russian leader has publicly endorsed NATO's enlargement, senior officials—including President Yeltsin—have repeatedly acknowledged the importance of partnership with NATO and the West.

Thus, in policy-level discussions with the Russians we will continue to state clearly that NATO is willing to go the extra mile in developing an effective partnership with Russia, that the Alliance's eventual enlargement is not aimed against Russia or any other state, and that Moscow's interests would not be served by repudiating the still-evolving NATO-Russian relationship (or any arms control agreements) because of NATO expansion. We will also continue to monitor carefully reports of undue Russian pressure on neighboring states to create new military blocs, as well as reports of Russian plans for military responses to NATO's enlargement. As necessary, we will make clear that such moves would only isolate Russia, impeding its further integration into the European mainstream.

Our demonstrated commitment to partnership and cooperation has already alleviated some of the fears and concerns expressed by Russian officials. For example, our active effort to involve the Russians in the implementation of a Bosnian peace settlement has demonstrated we do not want to go it alone. Instead, we have engaged in an intensive, ongoing dialogue with the Russians on this sensitive issue, most recently between President Clinton and president Yeltsin on October 23 and between Secretary of Defense Perry and Minister of Defense Grachev on November 8. While we will not compromise on the absolute need for an effective, NATO-led operation, if we are ultimately able to settle on a workable arrangement for Russian engagement we will have helped assuage Russian concerns that NATO is only interested in marginalizing Moscow.

In your final question you ask how the statements "We have agreed that constructive, cooperative relations of mutual respect, benefit and friendship between the Alliance and Russia are a key element for security and stability in Europe" and "NATO decisions, however, cannot be subject to any veto or droit de regard by a non-member state . . ." can be reconciled. But these statements are not, in fact, contradictory. Notwithstanding NATO's approach to enlargement, the Alliance has a strategic interest in seeking constructive, cooperative relations with Russia. The fact that we are actively planning to expand simply means that the enhanced Russian-NATO relationship will be with a larger NATO. We will listen to Russia's concerns about enlargement just as we listen to the thoughts of our other partners; their views will be taken into consideration and will certainly influence our thinking. But influence and a veto are two quite different things; neither Russia nor any other non-member will have a veto over Alliance membership (or any other) decisions.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your thoughtful questions. We look forward to continuing our exchange as the Alliance moves closer to enlargement and as NATO-Russian relations continue to develop.

Sincerely,

WENDY R. SHERMAN,
Assistant Secretary for
Legislative Affairs.

THE ADMINISTRATION NEEDS TO SUPPORT TAIWAN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, recently A.M. Rosenthal of the New York Times wrote two thought provoking articles regarding Taiwan. He points out how the administration's apparent weakness in supporting our democratic friends there plays into the hands of the dictators in Beijing.

There are a number of territorial disputes in Asia. One of the most contentious is the ownership and future of the island of Taiwan. Regretably, short of an early collapse of the dictatorship in Beijing, the 45-year-old stalemate over the issue shows no signs of an immediate resolution.

Taiwan is a free democracy. A nation where people can express their thoughts and practice their religious beliefs. Through the long years it has remained a loyal friend and steadfast ally of the United States. The Republic of China is one of Asia's economic miracles featuring a strong and growing economy with less than 1-percent unemployment. From our perspective this is the type of free and democratic society we need to support in the region and around the world. On the other hand we have the People's Republic of China. The Beijing leadership has repeatedly proven itself over the years to be an oppressive dictatorship with little regard for human and religious rights, much less political freedom. Its military fought against ours in Korea, supported the Communists in North Vietnam, and currently ships weapons of mass destruction to terrorist nations in the Middle East.

For the past 10 years whenever an effort was attempted by the Congress to respond to Beijing's egregious behavior we were told, that there is a political transition period underway in China and if we took any substantive action we would be strengthening the hands of the hardliners.

And so for the last decade, whenever the Congress attempted to respond to China's export of products made by slave labor, we were told by the State Department to back off.

When we raised the issue of the Communist's repression of religious and political thought, the State Department told us that economic liberalization will bring about political pluralism.

Accordingly, Beijing has never paid a price for its unfair trade practices, arms proliferation, repression in occupied Tibet, massive military buildup, the recent aggression in the Spratly Islands, its disregard for intellectual property rights, its illegal detention of Harry Wu, an American citizen, and its threatening military exercise off the coast of Taiwan. On the contrary, the State Department believes that we need to further soften our approach to Beijing.

I am all for working peacefully and negotiating quietly with the Chinese. But time and time again, the State Department has failed to bring home the bacon. Constructive engagement cannot be just a one way endeavor. The State Department needs to recognize this and adjust its course.

Considering all these facts, the Congress is compelled to ask if Taiwan's time has come to be recognized by the world's community of nations. And if so, what can this body do to help

the free people of Taiwan. Taiwan leadership has repeatedly asked for our help in their quest for their people to have the last word in their own future.

Let me say that now is the time to help our friends on the island of Taiwan. We have been waiting far too long to respond to their aspirations and hope.

Accordingly, I ask that the full text of A.M. Rosenthal's articles be printed in the RECORD at this point.

[From the New York Times, Nov. 28, 1995]

YES, THERE IS A TAIWAN

(By A.M. Rosenthal)

TAIPEI, TAIWAN.—The trucks move day and night through the streets of Taiwan like creatures alive and wild with their own energy—shouting and singing through their loudspeakers, denouncing, trumpeting, cajoling, forbidding escape or the succor of a moment's silence.

The loudspeakers, mounted fore, aft and atop, deliver a gigantic rolling headache. But they also deliver the sound of democracy, to a small country new to it, and to a huge glowering country whose leaders detest the thought of it.

This is campaign time in Taiwan, a free campaign, fought hard, for the free election of a national legislature. It is the most important democratic step since 40 years of military rule ended in 1987 and the democratic process began on this island—an often-tested missile-distance across the waters from Communist China.

And next March an even more important election will take place. The people of the islands will take part in a direct presidential election—the first direct election of a national leader in the thousands of years of history of the Chinese people.

The economic development of Taiwan moves ahead smartly, and so does its democratic development. That is news of importance far beyond this island.

Asia has a batch of countries developing economically but not democratically. Just give Asians a full belly, the colonial West used to say. Now that is amended: Just give them a motorbike and big-screen TV.

Taiwan is crowded, its cities are messy and its roadsides junk-strewn. But politically it is becoming quite handsome, a living denial of the slur that Chinese are content to live without political freedom.

Westerners have a way of thinking of Taiwan in relation only to China and their own interests. Mostly they think nervously of how furious Beijing will get if the West gives any acknowledgment or respect to this island that the Communists say is their own province, now and forever.

The West trembles to breathe a word about allowing Taiwan to take part in international activities—even helping refugees. Its skin crawls with fear that Beijing will reduce the West's right to take part in the China trade and the privilege of buying from China billions of dollars more in goods than the West has any hope of ever selling to China.

The worldwide diplomatic blockade that Beijing has created against Taiwan is not the worst of it. When Beijing thinks that the substantial movement toward an independent Taiwan is getting stronger, or sees the horror of democracy rising on this prosperous island so close to the mainland, the Chinese Communists mount menacing military operations. No pretense is made that the exercise and the ugly warnings by top military men are not aimed at intimidating Taiwan and aborting its growing fascination with democratic practice. Expect more threats.

The people of the island, ethnically Chinese, descend either from families that have lived here for centuries or from immigrants who fled to Taiwan with Nationalist army when it was defeated by the Communists in 1949.

The ruling party is the Kuomintang, a meli- lowed offspring of the hard-handed party of Chiang Kai-shek. It is headed by President Lee Teng-hui. Mr. Lee gave Beijing a heart attack recently by visiting his American alma mater, Cornell University. Beijing has been trying ever since to give one apiece to him and the U.S. for such impertinence.

The Kuomintang stands for reunification with the mainland—some day, when Beijing manages to become non-Communist, and a convert to human rights. So the KMT is denounced by the New Party, made up of breakaway KMT hard-liners, as kind of Confucian Coalition.

The major opposition is the Democratic Progressive Party—strong for independence, but not ready to invite Communist attack by making a Taiwan July Fourth Declaration.

Panting for the China trade, the U.S. forbids Taiwan representatives to set foot in the State Department or White House. But the weeks of democratic campaigning prove that whether Beijing and its international business lobby approve or not, Taiwan has produced a prosperous, growingly democratic society of its own, separate in political practice and desire from the mainland.

Or, as it appears on posters around the island: "Yes, there is a Taiwan." Send in more trucks.

[From the New York Times, Dec. 1, 1995]

THE BLOCKADES OF TAIWAN

(By A.M. Rosenthal)

TAIPEI, TAIWAN.—They come almost every day now—the military threats to this island country from the Communist Government in Beijing.

Chinese Army commanders order repeated amphibious landings at the mainland coast nearest the island—the precise kind of operation that would be needed to invade Taiwan—and "tests" of missiles in the straits dividing China and the island. In recent days there has been a series of leaked reports that Beijing is considering a naval blockade of Taiwan.

Nobody knows whether the threats are meant only to frighten all Taiwanese into abandoning any thought of independence, however distant, or whether Beijing is readying its people and the world for an attack. If it does take place it is likely to be in the spring of 1996 before or after Taiwan holds its first direct presidential election.

But the evidence is that the military command is beginning to operate and plan independently of the civilian leadership in the Politburo.

This much seems clear from here: The West is operating on the assumption that if it says and does nothing, why, any dangers will vanish in a merciful blip.

The studious silence arises from the fundamental China policy of the West: Rock no Chinese boat lest Beijing throw easy Western access to the Chinese market overboard.

The West manages to maintain its silence because a Chinese blockade of Taiwan already exists: the political and diplomatic blockade created by Beijing after it took over the China seat in the U.N. in 1971.

The government on Taiwan was not only ousted from the U.N. but from the international community. Taiwan, one of the largest trading nations in the world, has been cut off from normal diplomatic and political relations with almost the whole world.

The U.S. maintains an "institute" in Taipei headed by a "director." But no flag is

flown outdoors to save Beijing a fit. In Washington, representatives of Taiwan cannot sully the State department or White House by their presence. So far, separate drinking fountains for Taiwanese representatives have not been set up.

Taiwan is not only barred from the U.N. but from all its many specialized agencies, including those supposed to deal with such universal subjects as health and agriculture—say, AIDS or starvation.

The blockade is so obsessively enforced that it even excludes aid to refugees. Last year the U.N. appealed for funds for Rwandan refugees, among the most suffering of God's human creatures. Taiwan offered \$2 million; refused. The Taiwanese did manage to get their gift accepted—by channeling it through an American committee for Unicef.

Correspondents from Taiwan are not permitted to enter the U.N. As a former reporter at the U.N., in its early days, I have thought of slipping my pass to a correspondent from Taiwan, to annoy U.N. authorities, but I decided it wouldn't work.

Before Beijing commanded the U.N., correspondents from non-member peoples were allowed in. I learned more about North Africa and Indonesia from independence-movement reporters than I ever did from the colonial French or Dutch.

North Korea and South Korea are members and so were East and West Germany. The Palestine Liberation Organization was given representation at the General Assembly with only a vote lacking.

But when China decided that any dreams of independence, sovereignty or even dignity that Taiwan might harbor were too dangerous to tolerate, this special apartheid was created for the island. The U.S. and most other U.N. members meekly kissed Beijing's iron slipper.

That means Taiwan cannot use an U.N. or any normal diplomatic channel to raise an alarm that had to be officially heard about the open military threats from Beijing. If any other country had threatened another so blatantly the case would immediately have been on the U.N. agenda.

Now of course most U.N. members, including the U.S., would be paralyzed with economic terror at the very idea of proposing that Taiwan as well as China be represented at the U.N. But perhaps Washington, London, Paris and Tokyo will dredge up enough courage to increase their own diplomatic contacts with Taiwan as a warning to China. Perhaps.

Until now the Chinese diplomatic blockade and Western submission to it have been merely disgusting. Now they are getting dangerous.

A BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE TO HIS MAJESTY KING RAMA IX OF THAILAND

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my personal best regards and the respect and appreciation of all the members of the International Relations Committee on the occasion of the birthday of the King of Thailand, King Rama IX.

Earlier this year, all Members of the House of Representatives were relieved when the King made a complete and impressive recovery from surgery and regained his full strength.

December 5, 1995

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — *Extensions of Remarks*

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As I have said on the floor of the House before, the people of Thailand are blessed to have such a wise leader. We, in the United

States are blessed to be able to call King Bhumibol our friend.

I am honored, as the spokesman for my colleagues, to wish the King a happy birthday

and a long reign. I wish him and his family greetings and good health from his friends in the United States.